Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 064333
ORIGIN SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 /022 R

DRAFTED BY SSM:J T MC ANDREW:RS
APPROVED BY SSM:C W KONTOS
NEA:A R DAY (DRAFT)
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P 231806Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION SINAI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064333

FOR THORNE FROM KONTOS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OGEN IS EG

SUBJECT: THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS AT SFM

REF: SINAI 640

1. YOU WILL RECALL THAT, DURING THE COURSE OF MY TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HAMILTON SUBCOMMITTEE, THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN OUR EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE NUMBERS OF AMERICANS AT SFM THROUGH HIRING THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS. AT THAT TIME, MY RESPONSE TO THE MEMBERS' QUERIES WAS BASED ON THE INFORMATION YOU HAD PROVIDED, NAMELY THAT THE ISSUE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED INFORMALLY WITH THE PARTIES, BOTH OF WHOM WERE DECIDEDLY COOL TOWARD THE IDEA.

2. THE FOREGOING NOTWITHSTANDING, AND WHILE MINDFUL OF THE VARIED PROBLEMS INVOLVED, AS WE DISCUSSED DURING YOUR RECENT CONSULTATION AND AS MENTIONED IN MY MARCH 4 LETTER,
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I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE TO HAVE A MORE EXPLICIT RECORD OF THE VIEWS OF THE TWO PARTIES ON THIS ISSUE. THEREFORE, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO SEEK AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE WITH LEVINSON AND MAGDUB, OR HIS SUCCESSOR,

THE POSSIBILITY OF E-SYSTEMS EMPLOYING A SMALL NUMBER OF THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS TO WORK AT SFM.

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3. IN YOUR CONVERSATIONS, YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT THIS MATTER IS BEING RAISED BECAUSE OF A SPECIFIC REQUIREMENT IN PL 94-110 THAT SSM EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF REPLACING AMERICANS IN THE SINAI WITH NATIONALS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. IF ACCEPTABLE TO THE TWO SIDES AND TO THE UN, WE WOULD ENVISAGE ONLY A MODEST SUBSTITUTION OF THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS IN ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT POSITIONS--E.G., DRIVER, COOK, CUSTODIANS, ETC. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, NOT CONSIDER FOR EMPLOYMENT ANYONE FROM A COUNTRY WHICH DOES NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH BOTH PARTIES.

4. IF POSSIBLE, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS BEFORE MY FORTHCOMING VISIT AND INDICATE THAT I WILL BE PLEASED TO REVIEW WITH THEM AT THAT TIME THE REASONS FOR CONSIDERING SUCH ACTION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMPLOYMENT, PEACE OBSERVATION MISSIONS, FOREIGN WORKERS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE064333
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: J T MC ANDREW:RS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770099-1095
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770330/aaaaazpj.tel
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Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN SSM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SINAI 640
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3021137
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS AT SFM
TAGS: PFOR, OGEN, IS, EG
To: SINAI
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4d6b20b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009